

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims of the present application as set forth below. A detailed listing of all claims has been provided. In accordance with the PTO's revised amendment format, a detailed listing of all claims has been provided. A status identifier is provided for each claim in a parenthetical expression following each claim number. Changes to the claims are shown by strikethrough (for deleted matter) or underlining (for added matter).

Claims 1—27 and 26—40 were originally filed, that is, there were two claim 26's and two claim 27's.

One of the two claim 26s was cancelled. One of the two claim 27s was cancelled.

Claims 41—42 are added.

No claims are amended.

Accordingly, claims 1—42 are pending.

1  
2       1.     (Original.) A processor-readable medium comprising processor-  
3 executable instructions for:

4             evaluating data transmission conditions;  
5             selecting, based on the evaluation of the data transmission conditions, data  
6 transfer rates;

7             selecting buffer size values for transmission to a receiver, wherein each of  
8 the buffer size values is based on one of the selected data transfer rates; and

9             selecting initial buffer fullness requirements, based on the selected data  
10 transfer rates and the selected buffer size values.

11  
12       2.     (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1,  
13 additionally comprising instructions for:

14             transmitting data to a plurality of clients at one of the selected data rates;  
15 and

16             configuring the data transmitted to include information, in lower  
17 transmission layers of a channel, which indicates to the plurality of clients a  
18 degree of robustness.

19  
20       3.     (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1,  
21 additionally comprising instructions for:

22             generating a descriptor, comprising the selected data transfer rates, the  
23 buffer size values, and the initial buffer fullness requirements; and

24             multiplexing the descriptor with audio and video data.  
25

1           4.     (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1,  
2 additionally comprising instructions for generating a descriptor comprising  
3 multiple sets of (R, B, F)-tuplets.

4  
5           5.     (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1,  
6 additionally comprising instructions for:

7                 generating a descriptor, comprising a set of selected data transfer rates,  
8 buffer size values, and initial buffer fullness requirements; and  
9                 transmitting the descriptor to a client.

10  
11           6.     (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 5,  
12 additionally comprising instructions for:

13                 transferring the descriptor to the client as part of a request-response  
14 protocol over a bi-directional channel.

15  
16           7.     (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 5,  
17 wherein:

18                 the descriptor is configured for MPEG compatibility; and  
19                 the descriptor is multiplexed with the audio and video data at regular  
20 intervals.

21  
22           8.     (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 5,  
23 additionally comprising instructions for configuring syntax for the descriptor  
24 according to:

25                 sd\_profile\_level() {

```
1      subdescriptor_tag
2      profile_level
3      bm_params_count
4      for(i=0; i<bm_params_count; i++){
5          reserved
6          bit_rate_value
7          reserved
8          vbv_buffer_size
9      }
10     }.
```

11  
12 9. (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1,  
13 wherein selecting data transfer rates comprises additional instructions for:

14 reducing an overall bit-rate of a transmission when increasing robustness of  
15 a portion a communications channel; and

16 increasing the overall bit-rate of the transmission when decreasing  
17 robustness of the portion the communications channel.

18  
19 10. (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 1,  
20 wherein evaluating data transmission conditions comprises instructions for  
21 evaluating environmental impediments to RF transmission.

1       **11.** (Original.) A processor-readable medium comprising processor-  
2 executable instructions for transmitting robust data from a transmitter to a  
3 receiver, the processor-executable instructions comprising instructions for:

4           establishing a rate of data transmission and a level of redundancy;  
5           specifying parameters, including the rate, for operation of a buffer on the  
6 receiver; and  
7           transmitting the parameters at intervals to the receiver.

8  
9       **12.** (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 11,  
10 wherein establishing the rate of data transmission comprises further instructions  
11 for:

12           evaluating environmental conditions as an input to establishing the rate of  
13 data transmission; and  
14           selecting between discrete rates of data transmission based on the  
15 environmental conditions.

16  
17       **13.** (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 11,  
18 wherein specifying parameters comprises instructions for:

19           specifying a minimal buffer size for the buffer on the receiver; and  
20           specifying a value for initial buffer fullness prior to data removal for the  
21 buffer on the receiver.

22  
23       **14.** (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 11,  
24 wherein specifying parameters comprises instructions for:  
25

1 specifying a value for initial buffer fullness prior to data removal for the  
2 buffer on the receiver based on size of the buffer on the receiver and on the rate of  
3 data transmission.

4  
5 **15.** (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 11,  
6 wherein establishing the rate of data transmission and the level of redundancy  
7 comprises:

8 making a bit stream available to a first portion of a communications  
9 channel to have greater robustness; and

10 making the bit stream available to a second portion of the communications  
11 channel to have lesser robustness.

12  
13 **16.** (Original.) A processor-readable medium comprising processor-  
14 executable instructions for configuring a receiver to receive data, the processor-  
15 executable instructions comprising instructions for:

16 obtaining a descriptor comprising values for rate, buffer size and initial  
17 buffer fullness;

18 configuring a buffer within the receiver according to the descriptor; and

19 removing data from the buffer when the buffer reaches the initial buffer  
20 fullness.

21  
22 **17.** (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 16,  
23 additionally comprising instructions for obtaining the descriptor from a request-  
24 response protocol over a bi-directional channel.

25

1       **18.** (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 16,  
2 additionally comprising instructions for obtaining the descriptor from a broadcast  
3 signal transmitting the descriptor repeatedly at intervals.

4  
5       **19.** (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 16,  
6 additionally comprising instructions for:

7       measuring signal quantities;  
8       selecting between a main portion of a channel or a robust portion of the  
9 channel depending on the signal quantities.

10  
11       **20.** (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 19,  
12 wherein measuring signal quantities comprises instructions, selected from a group  
13 of instructions, for:

14       measuring a signal-to-noise ratio;  
15       measuring a carrier-to-noise ratio;  
16       measuring an average signal energy level;  
17       measuring a number of corrupted data packets in a given time window;  
18       measuring peak energy;  
19       measuring run-length of corrupted data packets; and  
20       measuring residual energy in an equalizing filter.

21  
22       **21.** (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 16,  
23 additionally comprising instructions for:

24       using a main portion of a channel, having conventional robustness, when  
25 acquisition conditions are acceptable; and

1 switching to a robust portion of the channel when quantities calculated to  
2 indicate signal conditions indicate deterioration.

3  
4 **22.** (Original.) A processor-readable medium as recited in claim 21,  
5 wherein switching to a robust portion comprises instructions for:

6 using buffer parameters contained within the descriptor to adjust the buffer  
7 according to a rate of the robust portion of the channel; and  
8 moving data from the robust portion of the channel into the buffer.

9  
10 **23.** (Original.) A transmitter, comprising:  
11 a robust transmission selection module to select a rate of data transmission  
12 based on a review of environmental conditions;

13 video and audio encoders to encode data at the selected rate of data  
14 transmission;

15 a descriptor generator to generate a descriptor reflecting buffer parameters  
16 associated with the selected rate for use by a receiver; and

17 a multiplexer to multiplex the descriptor with the encoded data.

18  
19 **24.** (Original.) The transmitter of claim 23, wherein the descriptor  
20 generator generates a descriptor, comprising:

21 the selected rate;

22 a buffer size to be configured by the receiver; and

23 an initial buffer fullness value.



1           **25.** (Original.) The transmitter of claim 23, wherein the descriptor  
2 generator is configured to generate multiple sets of (R, B, F)-tuplets.

3  
4           **26.** (Original.) The transmitter of claim 23, wherein the descriptor  
5 generator is configured to generate the descriptor according to the syntax:

```
6       sd_profile_level() {  
7           subdescriptor_tag  
8           profile_level  
9           bm_params_count  
10          for(i=0; i<bm_params_count; i++){  
11              reserved  
12              bit_rate_value  
13              reserved  
14              vbv_buffer_size  
15          }  
16      }.
```

17  
18           **27.** (Original.) The transmitter of claim 23, additionally comprising a  
19 system information inserter to pass the descriptor to the multiplexer at intervals.

20  
21           **26.** (Cancel.)

22  
23           **27.** (Cancel.)  
24  
25

1       **28.**   (Original.) A receiver, comprising:  
2       logic configured for detecting a descriptor;  
3       logic configured for obtaining (R, B, F) values from the descriptor; and  
4       logic configured for setting a receiver buffer according to the (R, B, F)  
5       values.

6  
7       **29.**   (Original.) The receiver of claim 28, wherein the logic configured  
8       for detecting the descriptor comprises logic configured for obtaining the descriptor  
9       from a bi-directional channel.

10  
11       **30.**   (Currently Amended.) The receiver of claim 28, wherein the logic  
12       configured for setting the receiver buffer comprises logic configured for  
13       reconfiguring the receiver buffer in response to new or updated (R, B, F) values.

14  
15       **31.**   (Original.) A method of moving data from a transmitter to a  
16       receiver, comprising:

17       detecting conditions requiring redundancy;  
18       selecting from among available discrete rates by which data can be  
19       transmitted, wherein the selected rate provides redundancy sufficient for the  
20       conditions detected;

21       generating a descriptor comprising the selected rate, a minimum required  
22       buffer size and a required initial buffer fullness;

23       multiplexing the descriptor and the data; and  
24       transmitting the multiplexed data to the receiver.  
25

1           **32.**   (Original.) The method of claim 31, additionally comprising:  
2           inserting the descriptor into the multiplexed data at least one time per  
3           second.

4  
5           **33.**   (Original.) The method of claim 31, additionally comprising  
6           configuring, using the descriptor, a buffer within the receiver to receive the  
7           multiplexed data.

8  
9           **34.**   (Original.) A receiver, comprising:  
10          detecting a descriptor within data transmitted by a transmitter;  
11          monitoring reception characteristics and statistics, to select between  
12          conventional and robust channels within the transmitted data to reliably receive  
13          data;  
14          obtaining data transmission rate information and identifying a  
15          corresponding set of buffer parameters from the descriptor;  
16          configuring memory resources and flow control logic to provide elementary  
17          stream acquisition according to guidelines embodied by buffer parameters  
18          associated with the selected transmission channel; and  
19          buffering the received data until a buffer contains more than an initial  
20          buffer fullness value included within the buffer parameters.

21  
22          **35.**   (Original.) The receiver of claim 34, additionally comprising  
23          instructions for reconfiguring the memory resources and the flow control logic  
24          upon receipt of a descriptor having updated data.  
25

1       **36.**   (Original.) A transmitter, comprising:  
2       means for evaluating data transmission conditions;  
3       means for specifying (R, B, F) parameter values comprising rate, buffer  
4       size and an initial buffer fullness in response to the evaluated data transmission  
5       conditions;  
6       means for creating a compressed bit stream using an encoder; and  
7       means for combining the (R, B, F) parameter values with the compressed  
8       bit stream in a multiplexer.

9  
10       **37.**   (Original.) The transmitter of claim 36, additionally comprising:  
11       means for generating a descriptor comprising multiple sets of (R, B, F)-  
12       tuplets; and  
13       means for transmitting the compressed bit stream and the descriptor to a  
14       plurality of clients a selected data rate.

15  
16       **38.**   (Original.) The transmitter of claim 36, additionally comprising:  
17       means for generating a descriptor, comprising the specified data transfer  
18       rates, the buffer size values, and the initial buffer fullness requirements; and  
19       means for multiplexing the descriptor with audio and video data.

20  
21       **39.**   (Original.) A receiver, comprising:  
22       means for detecting a descriptor within transmitted data;  
23       means for deciding, by monitoring reception characteristics and statistics,  
24       which conventional and robust channels within the transmitted data to select to  
25       reliably receive audio, video and data elementary streams;

1 means for determining a data transmission rate and for identifying a  
2 corresponding set of buffer parameters from the descriptor;

3 means for configuring memory resources and flow control logic to provide  
4 elementary stream acquisition according to guidelines embodied by buffer  
5 parameters associated with the selected transmission channel; and

6 means for decoding the transmitted data when a buffer contains greater than  
7 an initial buffer fullness value found within the buffer parameters.

8  
9 **40.** (Original.) The receiver of claim 39, wherein the means for  
10 configuring memory resources and flow control logic reconfigures the buffer upon  
11 receipt of a descriptor having updated data.

12  
13 **41.** (New.) The transmitter of claim 27, wherein the system information  
14 inserter passes the descriptor to the multiplexer approximately twice per second.

15  
16 **42.** (New.) The transmitter of claim 23, wherein the robust transmission  
17 selection module configures a portion of a communication channel for increased  
18 robustness and configures another portion of the same communication channel for  
19 a typical level of robustness.